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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,936	11/04/2003	Randy S. Bethel	VPI/02-123 US	5983

27916 7590 11/24/2004

VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INC.  
130 WAVERLY STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139-4242

EXAMINER

HABTE, KAHSAY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1624

DATE MAILED: 11/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/700,936	BETHIEL ET AL.	
	Examiner Kahsay Habte, Ph. D.	Art Unit 1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-29 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Election/Restrictions*

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
  - I. Claims 1-17 (in part), 18, 19-22 (in part), 23 and 24 (in part), drawn to benzomorpholines and benzo-1,3-oxazines (i.e. R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> taken together and fused to ring B form a cyclic moiety selected from formulae i-vi), classified in class 544, subclass 90 and 105.
  - II. Claims 1-17 (in part), 19-22 (in part) and 24 (in part), drawn to quinoxalines (i.e. R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> taken together and fused to ring B form a cyclic moiety selected from formulae VII-IX), classified in class 544, subclass 350 and 354.
  - III. Claim 25, drawn to complex composition, classified in class 514, subclass various.
  - IV. Claims 26-29, drawn to a method of use, classified in class 514, subclass various.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups I-II are directed to structurally dissimilar compounds such that the variable core created by the varying definitions of R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> in the compound formula I do not belong to the same recognized class of chemical compounds in the art, and references anticipating one invention, would not render obvious the others. Group I is drawn to benzomorpholine ring and benzo-1,3-oxazine ring (benzo ring fused to a 6-membered

ring with O and N at 1,4- or 1,3-positions) and is different from Group II, since this core structure is not present in Group II. Group II is drawn to quinoxalines and is different from Group I, since it the benzo ring is fused to piperazine ring (six-membered ring with 2 nitrogens at 1,4-positions). Groups I-II are drawn compounds, simple composition are different from Group III that is drawn to complex composition. Groups I-II are drawn to benzomorpholines and benzo-1,3-oxazines and simple composition and are different from Group III that is drawn to complex composition of benzomorpholines and benzo-1,3-oxazines. Group III has additional ingredients (e.g. chemotherapeutic or anti-proliferative) that are not present in Groups I-II. This is because of the possibility of synergistic interaction, which is usually the purpose of the complex composition in the first place. Inventions I-II and IV are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the product as claimed can be used for light absorbing polymeric composition. Thus, separate searches in the literature as well as in the U.S. Patent Classification System would be required. Each group's compounds are made and used independently of each other and could support separate patents. The compounds differ significantly in chemical structures. One skilled in the art would not consider such diverse structure equivalents of each other.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

If applicants elect Group III, a tentative election of species and election of a single additional ingredient is required.

***Rejoinder***

2. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined. See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai, In re Brouwer and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)*," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

A telephone call was made to Ms. Karoline Shair on Nov. 9, 2004 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

### **Conclusion**

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kahsay Habte, Ph. D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-0667. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9.00AM- 5:30PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund Shah can be reached on (571) 272-0674, if there is no reply within 24 hours, James Wilson (Acting SPE) can be reached at (571) 272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

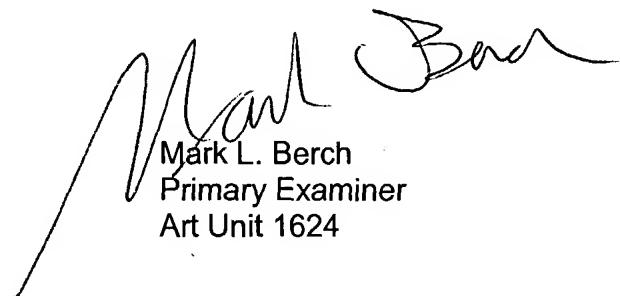
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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Kahsay Habte, Ph. D.  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1624

KH  
November 23, 2004

  
Mark L. Berch  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1624